

**Testimony of
Edward Levene
CEO, Clean Peak Energy**

Energy and Technology Committee Public Hearing

Senate Bill 176

March 3, 2022

Good Morning Chairmen Needleman and Arconti, Ranking Members Formica and Ferraro and members of the Energy and Technology Committee. My name is Edward Levene, CEO of Clean Peak Energy. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 176, An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities.

Almost exactly one year ago, the Energy and Technology Committee held an Informational Forum on Shared Clean Energy Facilities. This was a well attended Forum from members on both sides of the aisle, including a notable amount of members who don't currently sit on the Energy Committee. I believe its positive to see that this subject matter has garnered the widespread interest of the General Assembly that it has. As it turns out, the Forum was very productive in that it was able to vet out the most important questions legislators have on how competition in this marketplace would work.

The end result of the Forum was a bipartisan Amendment introduced by Representative Steinberg, Representative O'Dea and Representative Petit. This Amendment, which became the Bill, was a Study to be conducted by PURA. The language of the Bill addressed the very questions raised by legislators in the Informational Forum. I'd like to thank Chairman Arconti and Ranking Member Ferraro for supporting the Bill on the floor and ultimately voting in favor of it. This Bill passed the House 140 to 1. It did not come up for a vote in the Senate. I've attached LCO 9979 for your viewing.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Amendment

LCO No. 9979



Offered by:

REP. STEINBERG, 136th Dist.

REP. O'DEA, 125th Dist.

REP. PETIT, 22nd Dist.

To: House Bill No. 6414

File No. 56

Cal. No. 79

"AN ACT REQUIRING THE STUDY OF THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE STATE."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Billing agent" means an entity that has entered into a contract
5 with a subscriber to receive such subscriber's electric distribution
6 company bill;

7 (2) "Billing agent services" means the services a billing agent
8 contractually agrees to provide to a subscriber, including, but not
9 limited to, receipt of such subscriber's electric distribution company bill
10 and remittal of payment of the net charges on such bill, after issuing a
11 billing credit, to the electric distribution company;

12 (3) "Billing credit" means a credit in dollars equal to eighty per cent

13 of the retail cost per kilowatt hour a subscriber may have otherwise been
14 charged for each kilowatt hour produced by a shared energy merchant
15 facility;

16 (4) "Class I renewable energy source" has the same meaning as
17 provided in section 16-1 of the general statutes;

18 (5) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as
19 provided in section 16-1 of the general statutes;

20 (6) "Energy storage system" has the same meaning as provided in
21 section 16-1 of the general statutes;

22 (7) "Shared energy merchant facility" means (A) a Class I renewable
23 energy source that is located in the state, or (B) an energy storage system
24 that is located in the state and that (i) stores energy generated by a Class
25 I renewable energy source, or (ii) purchases and retires certificates
26 produced by a generating unit from wind or solar power that is located
27 in the United States in an amount equivalent to all energy dispatched by
28 such energy storage system; and

29 (8) "Subscriber" has the same meaning as provided in section 16-244x
30 of the general statutes.

31 (b) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall
32 conduct a study regarding new shared energy merchant facilities to
33 provide: (1) Information on the potential for new shared energy
34 merchant facilities to assist the state in achieving its renewable portfolio
35 standard goals through investments by private capital for the
36 construction of new shared energy merchant facilities with billing credit
37 and billing agent services; (2) information on the potential reduction to
38 costs during system peak demand; (3) information on the potential costs
39 of installed capacity; (4) recommendations for potential protections for
40 consumers who subscribe to a new shared energy merchant facility
41 using billing agent services and billing credits; (5) information
42 regarding how new shared energy merchant facilities can operate in
43 conjunction with the shared clean energy program established pursuant

44 to section 16-244x of the general statutes; (6) a comparison of the
45 distribution system reliability benefits; (7) information on the potential
46 reduced costs of renewable portfolio standard fees; and (8) information
47 on the economic costs to consumers that do not subscribe to a shared
48 energy merchant facility.

49 (c) On or before March 1, 2022, the chairperson of the authority shall
50 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
51 statutes, the findings of such study to the joint standing committee of
52 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2021	New section
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